

## A. H. S. ATTENDANCE FIGURES BOOST

Over Two Hundred in High School and Proportionate Grade Enrollment

## FOOTBALL SCHEDULE READY

Eleven Games to be Played by Coach Crisp's Team. A Good Squad Has Reported

Attendance figures at the local high school took a big boost during the past week, soaring over the two hundred mark with a margin of four and with several more yet to enroll. With the exception of the usual 1914-15 year the high school will have the largest enrollment in its history. A corresponding increase was reported in the primary and grammar grades and junior high school. The total enrollment in the public schools as a whole will overreach the nine hundred mark considerably.

While the attendance figures are on the increase the hopes of the football enthusiasts of Alma High School are also on the upgrade. If quantity of games is productive of football success the locals will have a brilliant season. Eleven contests are slated for the 1915 campaign. It is probably the best and most representative schedule that Alma High athletes have ever had. Besides the other two big high school teams in the county, St. Louis and Ithaca, which will be met twice during the season, Lansing, Mt. Pleasant, Owosso, Arthur Hill, Mt. Pleasant Indians, Alpena and Fenton will be seen on the gridiron against Alma.

The county seat boys came to Alma September 28th for the opening game of the season. On the following Saturday the Mt. Pleasant Indians will also come to Alma. This is the first meeting between these two teams in several years. Alma will open her out of town part of schedule at the state capital. The final game of the season will be played with Fenton November 13th.

The material with which Coach Crisp must mold a representative eleven is not of the best to say the least. It is not encouraging, neither is it very encouraging. Graduation has robbed the team of the services of Smith, Banghart and Mahr from the backfield alone. Verne Handley who was the premier halfback in Central Michigan prep school circles last year will not be eligible this year. From the line there will be missing Dutt, Muscott, Wonders and Blaisdell. With these eight out of the game this year, the difficulties of Coach Crisp's task are apparent.

Ralph Tinkham was elected captain of the team. He will have as veterans Howard Handley quarterback, Glen Campbell center and Harry Stevens end. Among the promising second string men and new men are Boyd, Walker, Kress, Hopkins, Emory, a former Breckenridge athlete who did such good work at the interscholastic last June, Hayward, Robert Schultz, Dave Mindell, Forrest Smith, Russell Cummings, Harry Woods and James Howe.

The boys are practicing every afternoon on the High School grounds under the direction of Coach Crisp and though it is still too early to hazard a guess as to the probable strength of the 1915 eleven, football enthusiasts may be very sure that the local high school will be represented by a team that will be a strong contender and a very probable winner during the coming season.

**H. S. SCHEDULE**  
Sept. 28—Ithaca H. S. at Alma,  
Oct. 2—Mt. Pleasant Indians at Alma,  
Oct. 8—Lansing H. S. at Lansing,  
Oct. 13—St. Louis H. S. at Alma,  
Oct. 16—Owosso H. S. at Owosso,  
Oct. 23—Arthur Hill H. S. at Saginaw,  
Oct. 27—Ithaca H. S. at Ithaca,  
Oct. 30—Mt. Pleasant at Mt. Pleasant,  
Nov. 6—Alpena H. S. at Alpena,  
Nov. 10—St. Louis H. S. at St. Louis,  
Nov. 13—Fenton H. S. at Alma.

**BOOSTER MEETING**  
A special meeting of the Business Men's Commercial Club was held at the City Hall last Wednesday night. A goodly number were present and a very enthusiastic session was held. Several important matters were taken up, one especially, was a move to build more houses in Alma. A committee was appointed to work out some plan and report at a later meeting which will be held. This is of vital interest to Alma at the present time and one that every business man in Alma should assist and do his share. Families are leaving Alma every week for want of a place to live, people rooming and boarding because they are unable to find a house. Alma needs fifty houses and she needs them now.

## DON'T LIE TO YOUR WIFE

The Semi-Musical Farce "Don't Lie to Your Wife" Comes to the Wright Opera House on September 23, 1915.

This play which had all Chicago laughing for four months is from the pen of Campbell B. Casad, a former reporter on the New York Herald, where he gathered the incidents for the play from actual observations.

The story briefly told deals in the adventures of three worthies who decide to "dally" with the congenial existence while their wives and sweethearts are out of town.

The opening of the play discloses them after they have dallied to some extent with some chorus girls, Coney Island faze bottles, and a law breaking machine which brings them in contact with a traffic policeman, who is only escaped with a bribe.

A busy press agent also adds to the woes of the three Lotharios, for this chap, ever on the qui vive for an "ad" for the Folly Theatre, where these three chorus girls hold forth, brings Amos Doppedade to his feet with the impassioned declaration "Never-more" just as the two wives and sweethearts, who are supposedly out of town, enter the apartment.

The men explain that "Never-more" is a sure thing race horse and later pass off the three bright corymbes as nieces, and while the men are endeavoring to invent further excuses the three unexpected women sally forth to wage money on "Never-more". Incidentally they get caught by the same mutual discovery of mistakes, general forgiveness and happiness for the final curtain.

Music a plenty—an up-to-the-minute chorus in stunning costumes and specialties as well, are promised.

## MASONS VS. ODD FELLOWS

Friday afternoon at two o'clock sharp the Masons and Odd Fellows will hold their annual baseball game on Davis Field. The proceeds are to go to the Alma Band to pay for the band wagon.

The band will play during the game and give a concert on the grounds.

## HEALTH WEEK PLANS READY

Fine Address and Good Music to Feature Annual Meeting October 3-8.

Plans for the first Good Health Week in Gratiot county are going along most satisfactorily. At a meeting of the permanent organization committee held Tuesday evening, Mrs. V. H. Shepherd, temporary secretary of the association was appointed a committee of one to draft a constitution which will be submitted to the committee as a whole on the 4th of October.

Good Health Week will commence Sunday, October 3rd, and will continue through to Thursday, October 7th. Special music will be furnished by the school children of the county and by Prof. Veatch of the college for every afternoon and every evening session. Most of the music for the afternoon sessions will be furnished by the Alma Public Schools under the direction of Miss Jones.

The program of the first day or Sunday will be taken charge of by the ministers of the city. There will be no evening session, but simply the afternoon meeting at three o'clock. On Monday the business men, on Tuesday the fraternal orders, on Wednesday the medical men and on Thursday the school children will have charge of the meetings.

One of the biggest attractions of the Week will be the addresses by Rev. Carolyn Bartlett Crane.

A better baby contest will be held with all the physicians of the county as judges of the show. A gold medal will be presented to the healthiest and best natured baby entered. Of course every baby is all of that and more too, but the officers of the Good Health Week of the judges as to which one of all the babies entered has all these superlative accomplishments in the highest degree. A silver medal will be given to the second prize winner. All mothers will please send the names of their babies to Dr. Lamb, who is making up the entry list.

Twenty-seven dollars will be given away in prizes to the school children for the best essays.

State Food and Dairy Commissioner Helme will give his famous address, "Fakes, Frauds and Food" during this week.

## TOLEDO EXCURSION

Sunday, September 19th

Excursion to Toledo via the Ann Arbor Railroad Sunday, September 19th. See agents regarding particulars.

## ELWELL I. O. O. F. TEMPLE DEDICATED

Impressive Services Held Wednesday Evening in New \$4,500 Home.

## 400 ATTEND BIG BANQUET

Opening of New Temple Attended by Representatives of Ten Lodges.

The new \$4,500 I. O. O. F. Temple of Elwell was officially dedicated at a big service held in the building yesterday afternoon at three o'clock before one of the largest gatherings of the year. Additional importance was given the service by the presence of the Noble Grand Master of the State, Miles F. Gray of Lansing and the Grand Chaplain, Rev. McLain of Ithaca. The beautiful services were a fitting climax to the completion of this splendid temple which has been made a possibility through the efforts of enterprising and progressive Elwell men and many farmers of the surrounding community.

Six years ago the lodge was first organized. The membership was not large and the lodge was under a large debt for the expenses of organization, paraphernalia, etc. Last year the debt was wiped out and the finances of the lodge showed a substantial amount on the credit side. Then it was that the long cherished hope of the members began to crystallize in the actual decision to build a temple of their own and the starting of building operations.

The Temple is thirty-seven feet wide and eighty feet long, outside measurements. It is built of brick two stories high, on the main street facing the west. It is a fine appearing building from the outside and will be a source of much pride for Elwell people. They may well be proud of it.

The first floor is divided into two large apartments, the south half being given over to a general grocery and millinery store and the ice cream parlor owned and conducted by Mrs. Ed. Mathewson. This is a very attractive room and as a store is already enjoying a large business. The north half will be used for a banquet and dining hall, kitchen, and storage room. The banquet hall is eighty four feet long and sixteen feet wide. It is equipped with large tables and many fine chairs. The kitchen adjoining the dining hall measures sixteen by nineteen feet. It is equipped with modern conveniences. A storage room behind the banquet hall measures five by sixteen feet.

The main lodge room is sixty by thirty-six feet. It is unusually light. Up-to-date furnishings were everywhere used, and some fine effects in color harmony are brought out. The ceiling is self-supporting, over a thousand feet of bridging being used for this purpose. Like all the rooms in the building it is well equipped with electric lights.

There are two stairways leading to the second story, one from the front and one from the rear. The front stairway leads to a very comfortable reception room and smoker, fifteen by twenty-two feet.

Next to this is the property room of slightly smaller proportions than the reception room. Inner ante and cloak rooms for the Odd Fellows and Rebeccas leads from the property and reception rooms to the main lodge hall. The arrangement of the rooms is exceptionally good, the plans for the whole building being drawn up by J. A. Sadler, who with Will Schiff, has overseen its erection. The building committee of the lodge consists of Will Hutchinson, Levi Pritchard, E. Miller, Will Schiff, J. E. Morgan and J. A. Sadler. Next to this block and built along similar lines though much smaller is a store building occupied by C. J. Kelley, who conducts a barber shop and pool and billiard hall. He has been in business at Elwell for five years.

At the big dedicatory service the Grand Marshall was Frank French, Grand Chaplain P. C. Collier, Herald Mr. Bert Culver, Mrs. Marion Fisher, Mrs. Marion Taylor and Mrs. Hazel Kelley. The regular evening for I. O. O. F. meetings is Tuesday, while the Rebeccas will hold their regular meetings on every alternate Saturday evening.

The following are the officers of the Elwell I. O. O. F. lodge: Acting Past Grand Master J. A. Sadler, Noble Grand J. H. Osborn, Vice-Noble Grand Will Shong, Recording Secretary Marion Fisher, Finance Secretary S. Romine, Treasurer Will Hutchinson. Sixty members of the Alma I. O. O. (Continued on Page 4)

## A NARROW ESCAPE

It was by a mere stroke of fortune that John Chick still has the use of his eyesight. While on his way to Detroit Friday evening the smoker of the Michigan Central train in which he was riding was struck by a street car. Mr. Chick was thrown forward his face striking the back of the seat in front of him. Dirt and dust particles were ground into his eyes. It happened that though the side of the coach was stove in he was the only one who was at all hurt.

Officials of the road wired ahead to a doctor at Vassar, who met the train and accompanied Mr. Chick to Detroit. When they reached that city D. U. R. officials met him and took him to the best eye specialist in the city. For two days he was in severe pain, but due to the excellent work of the physicians his eyesight has been preserved.

## WILL RECEIVE ORDERS FOR SHRUBS

The shrub committee of the Civic League will be at the Reading Room next Thursday, September 23rd, from two till five o'clock to take orders for shrubs.

## BIG W. C. T. U. CONVENTION

Delegates From Seven Counties Hold Annual Assembly Monday to Thursday.

With forty-five delegates present from the seven counties represented in the 8th District W. C. T. U., a splendid convention has been holding in this city this week in the Presbyterian Church. The counties represented are Gratiot (Midland, Shiawassee, Montcalm, Saginaw, Isabella and Clare. It is the thirty-fifth annual convention and probably the most successful that has ever been held.

The convention opened Tuesday afternoon and closed this noon. The daily talks by Mrs. F. B. Perkins, State Superintendent, have been one of the strongest features of it. Tuesday afternoon a memorial service was held in honor of the twelve members of the organization who have passed away during the past year. Tuesday evening the following Alma men gave speeches of welcome: Dr. Brainerd in behalf of the city Prof. Schultz for the public schools, Rev. J. W. Priest for the churches and Mrs. Flemming for the local order of the W. C. T. U. Mrs. Minnie Lamercaux of Clare gave a very instructive talk. Music by the male quartette, composed of Messrs. Berg, Wright, Gerhard and Stinscomb, was greatly appreciated. The county presidents gave their reports.

Wednesday the following officers were elected for the coming year: President, Mrs. Norma F. Mudge of St. Louis; Vice-President-at-Large, Mrs. McKinney of Saginaw; Recording Secretary, Mrs. Edna Fuller of Farwell; Corresponding Secretary, Mrs. Mary Christian of Chesaning; Treasurer, Mrs. Etta Killian of Carleton.

In the evening the session was devoted to business reports, etc. Some unusually fine music featured this session. A fine vocal solo by H. C. Moore, a pipe organ solo by Prof. J. T. Ewing and a ladies trio by Miss Olive Smith, Miss Mae Jones and Mrs. McKenzie. The singing of the trio was especially popular with the audience.

The next convention will be held in Lakeview.

## FAREWELL RECEPTION

A farewell reception was given by the members of the Bible School of the Church of Christ Saturday evening in honor of Charles Dutt Jr. at the home of Dan Zinn on Euclid Avenue. The porch and lawn were beautifully decorated with Japanese lanterns. While the young people played games the older ones were royally entertained inside with music. Later in the evening ice cream and cake were served and the guests departed for their homes just before the clock chimed the hour of twelve. There were about seventy-five people present.

Mr. Dutt left Monday afternoon for Lexington, Kentucky, where he will attend college. He has been superintendent of the Bible School for nearly a year as well as being active in the other organizations of the church, and will be greatly missed by all who know him.

The Saginaw Valley Baptist Association will meet with the First Baptist Church of St. Louis on Tuesday and Wednesday, September 21st and 22nd. Rev. J. W. Priest, who was elected moderator last year, will preside at the opening session. Several delegates and visitors from Alma expect to be present.

## LIGHTNING KILLS KORAH FOOKES

Prominent Pine River Farmer Struck Down Near Old Home Tuesday Night.

## GRATIOT FARMER 30 YEARS

Funeral Services Held Today Attended by Large Crowd of Sorrowing Friends.

Korah D. Fookes, one of the most prominent farmers of Pine River township, was struck by lightning Tuesday evening, during a severe electric storm, while looking for a tub near the side porch of his home, and instantly killed. The awful tragedy, which is one of the worst that has befallen that farming community for many years, occurred about ten o'clock at night. Several neighbors had helped him thresh his grain. The day's work and chores had been done and the well known Pine River farmer wished to clean up a bit before retiring for the evening. With a lantern he went out in the storm to get a small tub which was lying close to a large tree near the porch. Apparently he was struck just as he found it. The loud crash of the stroke brought the family to the scene of the accident and Mr. Fookes was found lying dead, having been killed instantly. He was struck just over the right temple.

Mr. Fookes was forty-nine years of age the third day of June. Only last Sunday he and his wife celebrated their twenty-seventh wedding anniversary. He was born in Union county, Ohio, June 3rd, 1866. At the age of seven he moved with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph M. Fookes, to a farm located just a half mile north and one half mile west of the present Fookes farm. When twenty-two years of age he was united in marriage to Miss Nancy Hoyt.

At the time of his marriage he moved onto his present farm just half way between Elwell and Forest Hill. It is comprised of eighty acres and is one of the best farms in that part of the country. Mr. Fookes was a very progressive and hardworking farmer and always kept his farm in the best of condition. His interests were not confined to the improvement and building up of his farm, however, for he was a prime mover in all the affairs of public interest. He was a prominent member of the I. O. O. F. of Elwell and was the first member of that lodge to pass away since its formation over six years ago. He was one of the guarantors of the Alma Chautauque and always took a great interest in movements for the betterment of civic as well as rural conditions. His private charities were quite numerous.

One son was born to Mr. and Mrs. Fookes, Glen, aged twenty-two years. He is employed at present in Bay City and has worked at various times in this city. He leaves a wife, Mrs. Nancy Hoyt Fookes, four brothers, James of Clare county, Oral of Bear Lake, Frank of Pine River township and Arthur of the same place; two sisters, Mrs. Baumaster of Pine River township and Mrs. Brown, who lives in the state of Washington.

The funeral will be held on Friday in the home according to the present plans. It is anticipated that there will be a large number of friends and neighbors who will wish to attend and pay their last respects to such a highly honored and respected citizen farmer. His loss is more than a family loss; it is a community loss.

## MARRIAGE LICENCES

List of marriage licences for week ending September 11th inclusive.  
Ernest Hoaglin, 29, Ohio  
Carrie Proctor, 38, Ohio  
Arlo Eckert, 18, Alma  
Thelma Lindsey, 17, Alma  
Harrison DeMott, 23, Pompeii  
Lona E. Murray, 21, Bannister  
Loid Brown, 22, Arcadia Township  
Maude Daniles, 18, St. Louis  
Charles A. Price, 48, Ithaca  
Belle Jenne, 40, Ithaca.  
B. L. Case, County Clerk.

## SURPRISE PARTY

Monday evening twenty-two friends of James E. Allen very pleasantly surprised him by giving him a party on the occasion of his 28th birthday. The evening was enjoyably spent in music and games. The out of town guests were Mrs. Harriet Nelson and Mrs. Jesse Nelson of Stanton, Norman Loford of Edmore and Will A. Davis of Detroit. Light refreshments were served and a very enjoyable evening was spent.

## PETITION FOR STREET LIGHTS

On Tuesday evening the officials of the Gratiot County Gas Company submitted a street lighting proposition to the village council, in which the company offers to furnish and install street lamps at not to exceed \$27.50 each, and to furnish the lighting at not to exceed \$45.00 per year for each street lamp, to include all expenses, breakage, mantles, lighting and extinguishing. The lights are to run on a midnight schedule in summer and 11 o'clock in winter.

On Wednesday a petition was signed by a large percentage of the tax payers of the village, praying the council to enter into contract with the Gas Company for lighting the streets of the village, according to the above terms, and the council will probably act on the petition at the next meeting.

It is estimated that thirteen street lights will give efficient service, so that the main street and all the residence streets will be well lighted.

The reputation of Breckenridge as one of the best towns of its size in Michigan will be greatly enhanced when our streets are well illuminated, and this improvement will surely be greatly appreciated by every inhabitant of our lively and growing town.—Breckenridge American.

## REORGANIZATION EFFECTED

Affairs of Defunct Consolidated Light & Power Co. Satisfactorily Straightened Out

Three years have elapsed since the Consolidated Light and Power went to the wall after a brief and checkered career. The Detroit Trust Company has had charge of the defunct company's business during the interim. Tuesday representative stockholders and creditors met in Alma and decided to reorganize and spend a considerable amount of money in order that it may be put on a paying basis. Two years ago these representatives petitioned the Supreme Court of the State for permission to sell the company. This petition was granted last week. That in itself is the way the affairs of this company now stand.

The stock of the Consolidated Light and Power Company is principally held by Detroit, Toledo and Mt. Pleasant parties. The estate of the late J. L. Hudson of Detroit is one of the large holders. The receivership has halted the company's progress and during the past three years little has been done along constructive lines. However, under the present plans with the large addition to the workable capital, the business of the company will be greatly increased and their lines will be extended over a much larger territory.

## COLLEGE MUSIC DEPARTMENT

Prospects for a large attendance in the music department of the college are very good. Recently Prof. Veatch returned to take charge of the work. Through the action of the Board of Trustees the music at the college will become a department of the college proper and will be substituted for the Conservatory of Music. The change is only apparent and not real. Prof. Veatch, Miss Roberts and their assistants will direct the work of the new department, give lessons, etc. Some misunderstanding arose over the report that the college would not have a music department, but that the same work would be conducted outside of the college. This is not true.

The college kindergarten will open Thursday, September 23rd, under the direction of Miss Caroleen Robinson.

## CITIZEN'S MUTUAL AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE COMPANY OF HOWELL, MICHIGAN

Its Rapid Growth Is the Result of a Year's Preparation.

The organizers of this company originated a plan whereby a mutual company would protect its members against fire, theft and liability. Many months of time and effort has been spent to get the leading men interested in nearly every part of the state. The organizers did not believe that they could make a success of the company by starting late in the fall; the bad weather of late shows that they were wise in getting an early start, making it much safer for the members on account of the preparation made before organization.

The company is sending out five hundred policies the first of this week, and has secured the services of many of the best agents in the state to push this work, and automobile owners are showing their appreciation by joining this company.

Tuesday, September 21st, the Presbyterian Aid Society meets at the home of Mrs. J. T. Ewing on Grant Avenue.

## SUCCESSFUL YEAR FOR GAS COMPANY

43 Miles of Mains Laid and Over 600 Patrons Gained Since Organization.

## INCREASE STOCK TO \$40,000

\$10,000 Additional Stock Sold by Action of Directors' Meeting Last Week.

At a meeting of the Gratiot County Gas Company directors held the latter part of last week the amount of the capital stock of the concern was increased from \$30,000 to \$40,000. The general condition of the company's business since its incorporation was reviewed. During the past year the business of the Gratiot County Gas Company has amounted to approximately \$25,000. This sum represents almost entirely the business done in Alma and St. Louis, for only until within the past two or three months has gas been turned on in either Ithaca or Breckenridge.

Since the organization of the company a little over a year ago about one hundred thousand dollars has been spent in construction work. The approximate distribution by cities and towns is Alma \$50,000, St. Louis \$15,000, Ithaca \$15,000 and Breckenridge \$10,000. Of course the large expenditure of money in Alma was made necessary by the erection of the production plant on East Superior Street and the head offices on State Street.

Forty-three miles of gas main have been laid throughout the east half of the county. Six hundred houses and business places have been connected up for lights and cooking purposes. Sixty per cent of these connections are in Alma, the birthplace of the thriving company and home of its promoters. Only until recently have the company's men been able to lay mains on a large scale in Breckenridge and St. Louis.

Gas was turned on in Alma about October 1st, in St. Louis one month later, in Ithaca June 1st and in Breckenridge June 19th. A gas business amounting to \$25,000 in such a twelve-month of weather as this community and vicinity has seen is unusual to say the least. The weather has been most unpropitious, continued cold spells which are out of the ordinary, hampering the work and discouraging the installation of the service. Despite this unfavorable situation the company is behind its orders by two weeks and had they the men they could begin to connect up the farmers along the main line of service who are making urgent requests for it.

Three hundred fifty gas stoves have been sold as well as one hundred fifty other gas service appliances such as hot plates, toasters, etc. There are over two hundred gas irons in use, besides six automatic water heaters. As the business of the company has passed out of the experimental stage into the permanent and practical stage the orders for stoves, are coming in faster.

An interesting fact connected with the growth of the company is that every high school in the county is fitted up with a domestic science gas equipment, the one in Alma High School being the best to be had in the U. S. market.

## METHODIST MINISTERS CHOSEN

At the Methodist Conference held in Hastings last week the following ministers were appointed: Alma, T. R. G. Brownlow; Bannister, P. D. Duff; Berlin, W. E. Doty; Breckenridge, M. A. Braund; Carson City, W. W. Hurd; Crystal, E. C. Eldred; Grand Ledge, J. R. Wooton; Ionia, C. E. Hoag; Ithaca, C. L. Beebe; Maple Rapids, B. R. Millard; Seton, W. B. Robinson; North Star, Carl Seipp; Riverdale, A. W. Baker; St. Louis, J. B. Sword; Wheeler, G. F. G. Dunbar.

There was an old man and he had a wooden leg.  
He had no money and he didn't want to beg.  
But he had a piece of pipe and a twelve-inch board;  
He said, "By Heck! I'll make me a Ford."  
So he bought some gas and a quart of oil,  
And a piece of wire to make his coil,  
Two large wooden wheels and an old tin can.  
He hammered them together  
And the darned thing ran.

Mr. and Mrs. W. Walton are in Saginaw at the bedside of their son, who is very ill.